THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) A project has been prepared by Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) for installation of satellite based Communication Network to link border outposts (BOPs) in their area of responsibilities including Sino-Indian borders. This project envisages providing complete secure communication on voice, FAX, Data, Video Conferencing and Internet facility. The proposal of ITBP is under examination of Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) and (c) Both Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the Border Security Force (BSF) have been provided with V-SAT based Communication Networking under POLNET Scheme which are able to provide Data, FAX and Voice Communication.

165 V-SAT Terminals for BSF and 32 V-SAT Terminals for ITBP respectively have been approved and against the approved terminals, 63 terminals of BSF and 18 of ITBP have been made operational. The remaining terminals will be added in the network in a phased manner. These terminals will be installed along the BOPs manned by BSF and ITBP in their respective areas of deployment.

Review of Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958

1705. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre is considering to review imposition of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 in North Eastern State, particularly in Manipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any modifications or changes are possible to take place in the Act; and

(d) whether Government would initiate a fresh discussion on the said Act with the Governments of North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The recommendations of the Committee constituted by Ministry of Home Affairs to review the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 as amended in 1972 are under consideration.